

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's rejections will be considered in the order of their occurrence in the Office Action.

Paragraphs 1 through 3 of the Office Action

Claims 1-3 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Orensten et al.

Claims 4 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orensten et al. in view of Holt.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the requirements of claim 9, which was indicated as being allowable in the Office Action, and therefore claim 1, as well as claims 2, 4, 6 through 8, 11 and 12 which depend from claim 1, are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 3 has been cancelled.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 1-2 and 8 is therefore respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 4 and 6 is therefore respectfully requested.

Paragraph 4 of the Office Action

Although claim 10 was allowed in the Office Action, it has been cancelled to allow the inclusion of new independent claim 7.

Paragraph 5 of the Office Action

Paragraph 5 of the Office Action states that claims 5, 7, and 9 would be allowable if written into independent form with the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The above amendment incorporates the limitations of claims 1 and 4 (in their as-filed form) into the recitation of claim 5, and

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therefore claim 5 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 13 through 17, by virtue of their dependency from amended claim 5, incorporate the limitations of claim 5 (including the as-filed limitations of claim 1) and therefore it is submitted that claims 13 through 17 are also in condition for allowance.

The above amendment also incorporates the limitations of claims 1 and 6 (in their as-filed form) into the recitation of claim 7, and therefore claim 7 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 18 through 22, by virtue of their dependency from amended claim 7, incorporate the limitations of claim 7 (including the as-filed limitations of claim 1) and therefore it is submitted that claims 18 through 22 are also in condition for allowance.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE:

In the Claims (bracketed parts deleted and underline parts added):

1. (Amended) An electric aquarium cleaning apparatus for cleaning a fish tank, the electric aquarium cleaning apparatus comprising:

an intake section, said intake section being coupled to an inlet port of a pump assembly, an outlet tube connected to an outlet port of said pump assembly for removing dirty water from a fish tank for the purpose of cleaning the tank[.] and

said pump assembly being reversible for facilitating filling of the tank with clean water after the tank has been cleansed.

2. (Amended) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

said pump assembly including an electric motor, said electric motor being electrically coupled to an electrical cord for supplying power to the said electric motor[.] ; and

said pump assembly being fully submersible such that said pump assembly may be placed inside of the tank to facilitate the cleaning of large tanks.

Cancel claim 3.

4. (Pending) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

said intake section comprising a cleaning head, said cleaning head having a gravel screen coupled to an inlet side of said cleaning head for preventing any gravel from a bottom of the tank from entering said cleaning head.

5. (Amended) [The] An electric aquarium cleaning apparatus [as set forth in claim 4, further] comprising:

an intake section, said intake section being coupled to an inlet port of a pump assembly, an outlet tube connected to an outlet port of said pump assembly for removing dirty water from a fish tank for the purpose of cleaning the tank;

said intake section comprising a cleaning head, said cleaning head having a gravel screen coupled to an inlet side of said cleaning head for preventing any gravel from a bottom of the tank from entering said cleaning head; and

an outlet side of said cleaning head being pivotally coupled to an intake tube portion for allowing flexibility during cleaning of the tank.

6. (Pending) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

said intake section comprising an intake tube portion, said intake tube portion being for fluidly connecting a cleaning head to said pump assembly.

7. (Amended) [The] An electric aquarium cleaning apparatus [as set forth in claim 6, further] comprising:

an intake section, said intake section being coupled to an inlet port of a pump assembly, an outlet tube connected to an outlet port of said pump assembly for removing dirty water from a fish tank for the purpose of cleaning the tank;

said intake section comprising an intake tube portion, said intake tube portion being for fluidly connecting a cleaning head to said pump assembly; and

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said intake tube portion comprising a flexible tube member, said flexible tube member including a flow valve for manually regulating the flow of water into said intake portion, a first end of said flexible tube member being pivotally coupled to an outlet side of said cleaning head, a second end of said flexible tube member being coupled to said inlet port of said pump assembly for receiving dirty water into said pump assembly.

8. (Pending) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

said outlet tube including a connecting end, said connecting end being coupled to said outlet port of said pump assembly for fluidly transferring dirty water collected by said pump assembly through said outlet tube, said outlet tube having an exit end opposite said connecting end for expelling the dirty water.

Cancel claim 9.

Cancel claim 10.

Please add the following claims:

11. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:

an outlet side of said cleaning head being pivotally coupled to an intake tube portion for allowing flexibility during cleaning of the tank.

12. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

said intake tube portion comprising a flexible tube member, said flexible tube member including a flow valve for manually regulating the flow of water into said intake portion, a first end of said flexible tube member being pivotally coupled to an outlet side of said cleaning head, a second end of said flexible tube member being coupled to said inlet port of said pump assembly for receiving dirty water into said pump assembly.

13. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

said pump assembly including an electric motor, said electric motor being electrically coupled to an electrical cord for supplying power to the said electric motor; and

said pump assembly being fully submersible such that said pump assembly may be placed inside of the tank to facilitate the cleaning of large tanks.

14. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

said intake section comprising an intake tube portion, said intake tube portion being for fluidly connecting a cleaning head to said pump assembly.

15. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 14, further comprising:

said intake tube portion comprising a flexible tube member, said flexible tube member including a flow valve for manually regulating the flow of water into said intake portion, a first end of said flexible tube member being pivotally coupled to an outlet side of said cleaning head, a second end of said flexible tube member

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being coupled to said inlet port of said pump assembly for receiving dirty water into said pump assembly.

16. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

said outlet tube including a connecting end, said connecting end being coupled to said outlet port of said pump assembly for fluidly transferring dirty water collected by said pump assembly through said outlet tube, said outlet tube having an exit end opposite said connecting end for expelling the dirty water.

17. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

said pump assembly being reversible for facilitating filling of the tank with clean water after the tank has been cleansed.

18. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:

said pump assembly including an electric motor, said electric motor being electrically coupled to an electrical cord for supplying power to the said electric motor; and

said pump assembly being fully submersible such that said pump assembly may be placed inside of the tank to facilitate the cleaning of large tanks.

19. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:

said intake tube portion comprising a flexible tube member, said flexible tube member including a flow valve for manually regulating the flow of water into said intake portion, a first end of said flexible tube member being pivotally coupled to an outlet side

of said cleaning head, a second end of said flexible tube member being coupled to said inlet port of said pump assembly for receiving dirty water into said pump assembly.

20. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 19, further comprising:

an outlet side of said cleaning head being pivotally coupled to an intake tube portion for allowing flexibility during cleaning of the tank.

21. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:

said outlet tube including a connecting end, said connecting end being coupled to said outlet port of said pump assembly for fluidly transferring dirty water collected by said pump assembly through said outlet tube, said outlet tube having an exit end opposite said connecting end for expelling the dirty water.

22. (Added) The electric aquarium cleaning apparatus as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:


said pump assembly being reversible for facilitating filling of the tank with clean water after the tank has been cleansed.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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